### PATENT CUSA237 TION TREATY



From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

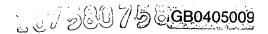
To:				PCT		
see form PCT/ISA/220  Applicant's or agent's file reference				WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)  Date of mailing (day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)  FOR FURTHER ACTION		
see fo	rm PCT/ISA/2:	20		See paragraph 2 belo	w	
l	ional application I B2004/00500		- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Priority date (day/month/year) 26.11.2003	
1	ional Patent Class 5/10, B65D5/54		both national classification	and IPC		
Applicar MONE	nt EY CONTROL	S LIMITED				
2. Fit with the lint with with with the lint with lint	<ul> <li>Box No. I Basis of the opinion</li> <li>Box No. II Priority</li> <li>Box No. IV Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</li> <li>Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</li> <li>Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</li> <li>Box No. VI Certain documents cited</li> <li>Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</li> <li>Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</li> </ul>					
	,	s, see Form PC	orm PCT/ISA/220.			
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## WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No. PCT/GB2004/005009

			AP20 RGC'd PCTIPTO 26 MAY 2006			
_	Вох	No. I	Basis of the opinion			
1.	<ol> <li>With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.</li> </ol>					
	Į.	angua	inion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).			
2.	2. With regard to any <b>nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence</b> disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:					
	a. typ	e of m	aterial:			
		a se	quence listing			
		table	e(s) related to the sequence listing			
	b. for	mat of	material:			
		in w	ritten format			
		in co	mputer readable form			
	c. time of filing/furnishing:					
		conta	ained in the international application as filed.			
		filed	together with the international application in computer readable form.			
		furni	shed subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.			
3.	h: Co	as bee opies is	on, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto n filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional sidentical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as ate, were furnished.			
4.	Additio	onal co	mments:			





## WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No. PCT/GB2004/005009

	x No. III Non-establishment o olicability	of op	inion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial			
			ntion appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non have not been examined in respect of:			
	the entire international application,					
	claims Nos. 55					
bed	eause:					
	the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (specify):					
	the description, claims or drawings (indicate particular elements below) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (specify):					
	the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.					
$\boxtimes$	no international search report has been established for the whole application or for said claims Nos. 55					
	the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing does not comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions in that:					
	the written form		has not been furnished			
			does not comply with the standard			
	the computer readable form		has not been furnished			
			does not comply with the standard			
	the tables related to the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing, if in computer readable form only, do not comply with the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions.					
	See separate sheet for further of	detail	ds.			

## WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No. PCT/GB2004/005009

_	Во	x No. IV	Lack of unity of	inventio	n	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
1.	⊠		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			06) to pay additional fees, the applicant has:		
		☐ paid additional fees.						
			paid additional fee	s under p	rotest.			
		⊠	not paid additional	fees.				
			•					
2.		This A	uthority found that the colority of the colori	ne require onal fees.	ement of ur	nity of invention is not complied with and chose not to invite		
3.	Thi	s Authoi	rity considers that th	e require	ment of un	ity of invention in accordance with Rule 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is		
	□ complied with							
	$\boxtimes$	not com	plied with for the fol	lowing rea	asons:	·		
		see se	parate sheet					
4.	Coi	nsequen	tly, this report has b	een estal	blished in r	espect of the following parts of the international application:		
	□ all parts.							
		the parts	s relating to claims I	Nos. 1-54				
		k No. V ustrial a				Bbis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or ns supporting such statement		
1.	Sta	tement						
	Nov	elty (N)		Yes:	Claims	2-20,24-48,52-54		
		,		No:	Claims	1,21,22,23,49,50,51		
	Inve	entive st	ep (IS)	Yes:	Claims	2-20,24-48,52-54		
			,	No:	Claims	1,21,22,23,49,50,51		
	Indu	ustrial ap	oplicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-54		
				No:	Claims			
2.	Cita	itions an	d explanations					
	see	separa	te sheet					
						·		
	Вох	No. VII	I Certain observa	ations on	the interr	national application		

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

see separate sheet

## Re Item III: Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

Claim 55 has not been examined because it has not been searched, in an initial stage, due to a lack of unity (See Item IV).

#### Re Item IV: Lack of unity of invention

The separate inventions are the following.

- -a) Claims 1-54 are relating to a packaging system, method and container for packaging sheet objects with an attributable monetary value.
- -b) Claim 55 is relating to a low voltage heater element.

They are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept (Rule 13.1 PCT) because the independent claims of the first invention (claims 1, 23, 49, 50, 51) and the independent claim 55, single claim of the second invention, address a priori two independent problems. Further, no common feature can be found between any of the independent claims 1, 23, 49, 50, 51 and the independent claim 55.

## Re Item V: Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: EP-A-0 852 279 (BAVAK BEVEILIGINGSGROEP BV) 8 July 1998

D2: DE-A-39 31 176 (LORENZ J.K.) 28 March 1991

D3: WO-A-94 17274 (BAVAK BEVEILIGINGSGROEP BV) 4 August 1994

D4: EP-A-1 258 842 (NCR INTERNATIONAL INC) 20 November 2002

D5: US-B-6 402 025 (SHEPHERD A.G. ET AL) 11 June 2002

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- 2. Lack of novelty (Article 33(2) PCT).
- 2.1. The document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document) a packaging system for packaging a stack of sheet objects comprising : [column 8, line 43 column 10, line 48; figure 1]
- -a packaging device (housing 1) comprising
- -an output port (top lip 14, bottom lip 15) for supplying sheet objects to be stacked in the container;
- -a docking mechanism (lid 5, pins 6) to receive the container, so that an opening (mouthpiece 11, inlet slot 12) in the container can receive the sheet objects from the output port;
- -a drive mechanism (U-shaped insertion chute 17, conveyors 18, 19, 23, 24, belt 22, guide 25) for driving the sheet objects to the output port, and for supplying the sheet objects through the opening into the container to be stacked therein;
- -a sealing device (anvil 31, pressure exerting member 32) to seal a closure member onto the container opening whilst held by the docking mechanism so as to seal the stacked sheet objects within the container such that the sealed container cannot be opened without rendering it subsequently unusable for packaging sheet objects in the packaging device;
- -one container (sealable bag 2) configured to be filled with a stack of sheet objects by the packaging device;
- -a closure member (mouthpiece 11) to be sealed by the sealing device onto the container.

Therefore, the subject-matter of claims 1, 21, 22, 51 is not new (Article 33(2) PCT).

- 2.2. The document D2 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document) a container (Umschlag 10) for packaging sheet objects (Banknoten, Wertpapieren) with an attributable monetary value, comprising:

  [column 4, line 20-53; figure 1]
- -an opening (Verschlussklappe 38) to receive the sheet objects.

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- -a base (Rückwand 34), sidewalls (transversale und longitudinale Schweissungen 12, 14, 16, 18) extending towards the opening from the base,
- -support rails (Versteifungsstreifen 20, 22) coupled to the side walls on opposite sides of the opening, past which in use the sheet objects resiliently deform when placed in the container in a stacked configuration, the container being configured to receive a closure member (Klebstoffschicht 40, 42) sealed thereto over the opening so that the container cannot be reused for stacking sheet objects once opened.

Therefore, the subject-matter of claim 23 is not new (Article 33(2) PCT).

2.3. The document D2 further discloses a device for removing sheet objects from a container according to claim 23 including:

[column 4, line 54-68; column 6, line 60 - column 7, line 18; figures 1, 5, 7]

-a support (Stützplatten 120, 120') for the container around the periphery of its opening, -a ram (Öffnungslineal 172) to apply a force to the base to drive it towards the opening and to collapse the side walls and cause the sheet objects to burst open the closure member (verlaufende fluchtende Perforationen 44, 46) so that the sheet objects move out of the container through the opening.

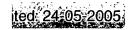
Therefore, the subject-matter of claims 49, 50 is not new (Article 33(2) PCT).

2.4. It shall be noted that the subject-matter of independent claims 1, 23, 49, 50, 51 appear also to be anticipated by other available documents as follows (see citations in International search report).

-Claims 1, 51 : document D3; -Claims 23, 49, 50 : document D4; -Claims 49, 50 : document D5.

3. Inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).

It seems that dependent claims can provide features to be combined in a way which could be neither known from, nor rendered obvious by, the available prior art. Nevertheless,





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would the applicant draft amended independent claims in such a way, a special attention shall be observed in order to avoid further lack of unity of invention (Rule 13 PCT).

#### Re Item VIII

### Certain observations on the international application

- -Independent claims 1 and 51 appears to define the same subject-matter. A single independent claim should be adequate to define the protection which is sought.
- -Claim 21 is drafted as an independent claim. However, it includes all the features of claim 1 and therefore shall be defined as a dependent claim, depending on claim 1 (Rule 6.4(a) PCT).
- -Dependent claim 22 is drafted in the form of an apparatus claim but is defined in term of how using the apparatus rather than clearly defining the apparatus in terms of its technical features. The intended limitations are therefore not clear from this claim, contrary to the requirements of Article 6 PCT.